

REMARKS

After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1 to 24 are pending in the application. No claims have been added or canceled. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11, 13-15, 17-19, and 21-23 have been amended.

The Office Action dated June 3, 2004 was directed to a restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121. An election of species was also requested.

Applicants hereby elect the invention characterized as Group I in the Office Action, *i.e.*, compounds in which X is $P(=O)R^9$ and A is CH_2 . The amendments to the claims are made both to exclude unelected subject matter, and to also exclude subject matter prosecuted to allowance in the parent case. Claims 3, 7, 11, 15, 19 and 23 have also been amended to correct an error in claim dependency.

In the Office Action dated June 3, 2004, the Examiner also requested an election of a single species under 35 U.S.C. § 1.121. It is Applicants' understanding that this species election is being made to aid the Examiner in conducting a search and examination of the claimed subject matter, and is not to be construed as limiting the scope of Applicants' claims. It is also Applicants' understanding that if the elected subject matter is found to be allowable over the prior art, the search and examination will be expanded to cover other species, until it includes the full scope of the generic claims included in the elected group.

Applicants hereby elect a species wherein:

X is $P(=O)OH$;

Q^1 , Q^2 , and Q^3 are each $-(CR^{11}R^{12})_n$, wherein n is 2

R^{11} and R^{12} are H;

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are each C_1 alkyl substituted with one R^5 ;

R^5 is $C(=O)OR^{18}$; and

R^{18} is H.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, 11-13, 15-17, 19-21, 23 and 24 read on the elected species.

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PATENT

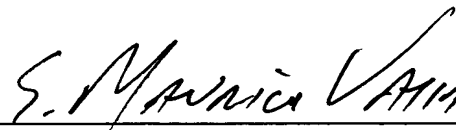
CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Office Action of record. An early and favorable first action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please continue to send all correspondence to:

Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Company
P.O. Box 4000
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-4000
Telephone: (302) 467-5260
Facsimile: (302) 467-6701

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S. Maurice Valla
Registration No. 43,966

Woodcock Washburn LLP
One Liberty Place - 46th Floor
Philadelphia PA 19103
Telephone: (215) 568-3100
Facsimile: (215) 568-3439